96
527.

His Majesties GRACIOUS SPEECH

To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT,

At their

Prorogation,

On *Monday* the 26th of *January* $16\frac{79}{80}$.

LONDON,

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529

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To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT,

At their Prorogation.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WHen I declared in Council My intention of putting off the Parliament to a time so remote as *November*, it was not without having very well weighed and considered the Grounds and Reasons that induced Me to it; Nor can I be prevailed upon by any thing that has hapned since (in reference to Affairs within the Kingdom) to alter or repent of that Resolution, but am rather confirmed and settled in it. When I have said this, I must tell you at the same time, That considering the present danger which threatens some of Our Neighbours and Allyes, in whose Interests and Safety We are so nearly concerned, it may be of very ill consequence to make a Prorogation for so long a time as should in the least

dishearten Our Friends that relie upon Us; for this single Reason therefore, I think fit to appoint a Day for your Meeting again in *April*; and having thus let you see My care of you, in relation to Affairs abroad, I must observe to you, That the Distractions and Jealousies at Home are of such a nature, and so heightened and improved by the Malice and Industry of Ill men, that I am unalterably of Opinion, that a longer interval of Parliament will be absolutely necessary for composing and quieting of Mens minds; in order to which, I am afraid the most proper Remedies would prove ineffectual, without the assistance of some farther Prorogation.

I do therefore Resolve, That from the Day whereon you are to Meet in *April*, there shall be a farther Prorogation, unless the Condition of Our Affairs abroad do then require Our immediate Assistance.

And now, my Lord Chancellor, do as I have directed.

Whereupon his Lordship said,

My Lords, and you the Knights, Citizens and Burgesses of the House of Commons, His Majesties Royal Will and Pleasure is, that this Parliament be Prorogued to Thursday the 15th day of April next ensuing, and accordingly this Parliament is Prorogued to the 15th day of April next.

FINIS.

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